

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 USNATO 04435

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
SUBJECT: COUNCIL OPERATIONS AND EXERCISES COMMITTEE (COEC)
MEETING ON APRIL 28, 1978

REF: (A) USNATO 3770 DTG 131522Z APR 78,
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SUMMARY: THE COEC DISCUSSED WINTEX/CIMEX 79 ARRANGEMENTS
TO INCLUDE (A) STATUS OF THE EXERCISE SPECIFICATION, (B)
PLAY OF NATO HQS, (C) EMPLOYMENT OF A SOVIET RESPONSE CELL,
(D) TIMING OF GENERAL ALERT, (E) POSSIBLE USE OF THE HIGH-
LEVEL EXERCISE PLANNING GROUP, AND (F) PROVISION BY THE US
OF DETAILED REINFORCEMENT DATA. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHING-
TON GUIDANCE NLT OOB MAY 22, 1978 ON (A) (SEE PARA 1H(2)
BELOW), (C) (SEE PARA 1D BELOW), AND (E) (SEE PARA 2C
BELOW). END SUMMARY.

1. AGENDA ITEM I: WINTEX/CIMEX 79
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A. EXERCISE SPECIFICATION

(1) TURKISH REP (ERGIN) SAID THAT TURKEY UNDERSTOOD THAT
ANNEXES A & B OF THE EXSPEC HAD BEEN APPROVED BY THE POLADS
(SEE POLADS 77/37) BUT NOTED THAT CERTAIN PORTIONS OF THE
POLADS' DOCUMENT HAD BEEN LEFT OUT OF THE REVISED EXSPEC,

E.G., INPUT CONCERNING DEPLOYMENT OF THE ACE MOBILE FORCE (AMF) TO TURKEY. THE SHAPE REP (HINCE) REPLIED THAT WHAT THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE HAD DONE WAS TO ASSIST SACEUR BY PRODUCING AND REVIEWING POLITICAL INPUT. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT IT WAS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MILITARY COMMANDERS TO MAKE FINAL DECISIONS WITH RESPECT TO MILITARY MATTERS. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THE SHAPE REP WAS OFF BASE HERE AS DEPLOYMENT OF THE AMF IS MORE OF A POLITICAL SIGNAL THAN A SIGNIFICANT REINFORCEMENT FORCE. END COMMENT. HE SAID THAT THIS PARTICULAR ITEM HAD BEEN LEFT OUT BECAUSE TO INCLUDE IT WOULD DESTROY A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF PLAY. A LONG, INCONCLUSIVE DISCUSSION ENSUED ON THE QUESTION OF INCLUSION OF THE TURKISH AMENDMENT. THE CHAIRMAN (MORAN) NOTED THAT THIS AMENDMENT WAS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE MILITARY COMMITTEE (MC) AND THAT IT WOULD BE BEST TO AWAIT THE OUTCOME OF THE MC DELIBERATIONS. THE SHAPE REP NOTED THAT THE TURKISH AMENDMENT POSSIBLY COULD BE INCORPORATED EITHER AS A FOOTNOTE OR INCLUDED IN THE KEY EVENT LIST. AFTER FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THE RAMIFICATIONS OF SUCH TREATMENT, THE TURKISH REP SAID "OUR STAND IS FINAL."

(2) THE UK REP (HEDLEY) PROPOSED SEVERAL AMENDMENTS TO THE EXSPEC. THE FIRST SUPPORTED A TURKISH PROPOSAL IN THE MC THAT LIBYA BE LISTED UNDER "NEUTRALS" RATHER THAN "PRO-ORANGE" AND PROPOSED AMENDING PARA 5(A)(1) OF ANNEX A TO

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READ "LIBYA WILL ASSESS THE SITUATION AND DECIDE WHETHER TO GRANT...". THE COEC AGREED TO THIS AMENDMENT SUBJECT TO A STIPULATION BY SHAPE THAT SUBSEQUENT LIBYAN EXERCISE ACTIONS WOULD PROCEED AS DRAFTED. THE SECOND BRITISH AMENDMENT WAS TO CHANGE PARA 5(A)(3) TO READ "CUBA'S POSITION REMAINS UNCERTAIN". THE COEC AGREED TO THIS AMENDMENT ALSO. THE FINAL UK AMENDMENT (REF PARA 5(A)(4) OF ANNEX A) WAS THAT ALBANIA BE MOVED FROM THE "PRO-ORANGE" TO THE "NEUTRAL" CLASS AND THAT PARA 5(C)(2) BE AMENDED TO READ "YUGOSLAVIA AND ALBANIA WILL ATTEMPT TO REMAIN NEUTRAL BUT WILL DEFEND THEIR TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY". THE SHAPE REP NOTED THAT THIS CHANGE WOULD CAUSE CONSIDERABLY MORE PROBLEMS THAN THE LIBYAN AMENDMENT. THE ITALIAN REP (DEL LUONGO), THE FRG REP (BROCKMAN), THE GREEK REP (ECONOMOV) AND THE US REP (ROBERTS) RESERVED ON THIS AMENDMENT. COMMENT: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE REQUIRED. END COMMENT.

(3) THE NORWEGIAN REP (BULL) PROPOSED THAT THE FIRST SENTENCE OF PARA 3(B) OF ANNEX B BE AMENDED TO READ "...ORANGE LEADERSHIP APPARENTLY WAS TRYING TO DRIVE A WEDGE...", AND THAT THE LAST SENTENCE OF THE SAME PARA BE REVISED TO READ "ORANGE TRIED TO PERSUADE THE TWO SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES

...". HE ALSO ASKED THAT THE SECOND SENTENCE OF PARA 3(F) OF ANNEX B BE AMENDED TO READ "...ORANGE BLOCK NATO VESSELS THROUGH THE BALTIC STRAITS". ALL THREE NORWEGIAN AMENDMENTS WERE ACCEPTED WITHOUT COMMENT.

B. WITH RESPECT TO AC/237-WP/124(REV), THE COMMITTEE AGREED TO DELETE THE BRACKETS ON PARA 5, 14 & 15. PENDING MC ACTION, BRACKETS WERE RETAINED ON PARAS 3, 12 & 17(1). PARA 8 WAS AMENDED TO ADD, BUT IN BRACKETS: "POLITICAL

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COMMITTEE MIGHT ALSO PLAY DURING THE NUCLEAR CONSULTATION PHASE TO ASSIST THE DPC IN DRAFTING POSSIBLE STATEMENTS BEARING ON CNI" AT UK SUGGESTION. PARA 11(III) WAS AMENDED TO READ "THE CIVIL REGIONAL LINES OF COMMUNICATION GROUP (ACTICE NUCLEUS) WILL PLAY NEAR AFCENT FROM E4 TO E11". WITH RESPECT TO PARA 9, THE COMMITTEE AGREED THAT NATIONAL COMMENTS ON THE CIVIL ASPECTS OF REINFORCEMENT OPERATIONS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE COEC POST-EXERCISE REPORT TO THE DPC.

C. THE US REP (PER REF B) ANNOUNCED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES HAD CONCLUDED THAT PLANNING AND PREPARATION FOR WINTEX/ CIMEX 79 WAS TOO FAR ADVANCED TO ALLOW FOR RESCHEDULING TO JUNE. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT WASHINGTON WISHED TO REAFFIRM ITS BELIEF THAT JUNE IS "THE DECIDEDLY PREFERABLE TIME TO PLAY THE HILEX AND WINTEX SERIES" AND WOULD ADVOCATE SO SCHEDULING HILEX-9 AND WINTEX 81. THE CHAIRMAN RESPONDED

THAT HE WELCOMED THIS US INTERVENTION AND THAT HE WAS SURE THAT EXERCISE PLANNERS WOULD ALSO BE VERY GRATEFUL. THE SHAPE REP, HOWEVER, TOOK THE US TO TASK FOR RAISING THE CONFIDENTIAL

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ISSUE IN THE FIRST PLACE, NOTING THAT SHAPE HAD BEEN PUT TO A GREAT DEAL OF ADDITIONAL WORK IN STAFFING A RESPONSE TO THIS PROPOSAL. HE CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT THIS WAS PARTICULARLY UNFORTUNATE AS SHAPE WAS AWARE THAT THE US PROPOSAL HAD NOT BEEN FULLY COORDINATED AND APPROVED BY US AUTHORITIES. US REP RESPONDED THAT USNATO HAD HAD DEFINITIVE GUIDANCE BEFORE TABLING THIS PROPOSAL, THAT WASHINGTON RESERVED THE RIGHT TO RECONSIDER ITS POSITION ON THIS OR ANY OTHER MATTER, AND THAT SCHEDULING HILEX-9 AND WINTEX 81 IN THE JUNE TIME FRAME HOPEFULLY WOULD KEEP SHAPE'S EFFORTS FROM HAVING BEEN IN VAIN.

D. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SOVIET RESPONSE CELL WAS ENTHUSIASTICALLY ENDORSED BY THE NORWEGIAN, FRG, UK AND TURKISH REPS. THE TURKISH REP ALSO NOTED THAT TURKEY HOPED BROAD PARTICIPATION (RATHER THAN JUST A FEW ALLIES) WOULD BE POSSIBLE. THE CHAIRMAN RESPONDED THAT VOLUNTEERS FROM ALL NATIONS WOULD BE WELCOME. COMMENT: IT IS COMMONLY ACCEPTED HERE AT NATO HQS THAT THE OVERWHELMING SUCCESS OF THE SOVIET RESPONSE CELL IN HILEX-8 WAS MAINLY A RESULT OF WASHINGTON'S NOMINATION OF FSO BORIS KLOSSON. THIS NOMINATION RESULTED FIRST IN AN UPGRADING OF THE FRG AND UK NOMINATIONS, WHICH WAS FOLLOWED BY MR. KLOSSON'S EXTREMELY ASTUTE, INFORMAL DIRECTION OF THE RESPONSE CELL'S ACTIVITIES. WE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING ABLE TO OFFER THE SAME CALIBER OF REPRESENTATION FOR WINTEX/CIMEX 79. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE. END COMMENT. THE CHAIRMAN NOTED THAT THE WINTEX/CIMEX CELL WOULD HAVE TO BE STRUCTURED SOMEWHAT DIFFERENTLY THAN THE HILEX-8 CELL BECAUSE PRE-PROGRAMMED MILITARY INPUTS AND THE PRE-DETERMINED PACE OF THE EXERCISE CANNOT BE AFFECTED BY RESPONSE CELL INPUTS. THE SHAPE REP NOTED THAT HIS ONLY CAVEAT WAS THAT THE SOVIET RESPONSE CELL MUST OPERATE IN CONJUNCTION WITH CONFIDENTIAL

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THE SHAPE DISTAFF AND BE SUBJECT TO DECISIONS OF THE EXERCISE DIRECTOR IN THAT SACEUR HAS BEEN NAMED BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL AS COORDINATING AUTHORITY FOR THE EXERCISE. THE CHAIRMAN RESPONDED THAT HE BELIEVED NATO HQS COULD ACCEPT THAT CAVEAT IF IT WAS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE RESPONSE CELL, WHILE GENERALLY GUIDED BY THE EXERCISE DIRECTOR,

WOULD PURSUE POLITICAL PLAY AS FREELY AS POSSIBLE. THE US
REP COMMENTED THAT WHILE HE RECOGNIZED THE NEED TO COOR-
DINATE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE RESPONSE CELL WITH PRE-
PROGRAMMED INPUTS, ETC., HE WAS CONCERNED THAT SETTING UP
CUMBERSOME CLEARING ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN THE RESPONSE CELL
AT NATO HQS AND SHAPE WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO LESS RATHER THAN
MORE REALISTIC POLITICAL PLAY. HE NOTED REALISTIC POLITI-
CAL INITIATIVES IN A WINTEX EXERCISE MUST BE COMPATIBLE
WITH THE FIXED PACE OF EVENTS WHICH SERIOUSLY LIMITED WHAT
COULD BE DONE; OTHERWISE, POLITICAL INITIATIVES WOULD BE
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UNREALISTICALLY ABORTED. HE CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT CUM-
BERSOME COORDINATION ARRANGEMENT WOULD EAT UP A LARGE SHARE
OF THE LIMITED TIME AVAILABLE AND SUGGESTED THAT ONE POSSI-
BLE SOLUTION WOULD BE TO ASSIGN A SHAPE DISTAFF LIAISON
OFFICER TO THE RESPONSE CELL. THE SHAPE REP SAID THE POINT
WAS WELL TAKEN BUT WONDERED IF THE RESPONSE CELL COULD NOT
OPERATE AT SHAPE. THE CHAIRMAN NOTED THAT THE RESPONSE CELL
WOULD HAVE TO BE LOCATED AT NATO HQS WHERE IT COULD OBSERVE
DPC MEETINGS, ETC., AND SAID THAT TELEPHONE LIAISON WAS
PROBABLY THE ANSWER. THE FRG REP MENTIONED DEDICATED COM-
MUNICATIONS. THE SHAPE REP NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE DIS-
TAFF COULD NOT TAKE SECURE LINES AWAY FROM THE PLAYERS AND
WOULD HAVE TO FIND ANOTHER MEANS. HE PROMISED TO EXPLORE

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THE PROBLEM.

E. TIMING OF GENERAL ALERT. THE UK REP NOTED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES WERE PREPARED TO PLAY AT THE SCHEDULED TIME AT THE PERMREP LEVEL. THE CANADIAN (LUNN) REP SAID THAT HIS AUTHORITIES WANTED GENERAL ALERT DECLARED AT 1500Z ON SATURDAY. THE ITALIAN REP SAID THAT HIS AUTHORITIES COULD AGREE TO LEAVE THE PAPER "AS IS". THE NORWEGIAN REP SAID THAT HIS AUTHORITIES BELIEVED THAT GENERAL ALERT SHOULD BE PLAYED BY PERMREPS AND SUGGESTED DEFERRAL TO 0800Z ON SATURDAY. THE TURKISH REP SAID THAT HIS AUTHORITIES COULD LIVE WITH PLAYING AS SCHEDULED OR SHIFTING TO 0800Z. THE US REP (PER REF B) SAID HIS AUTHORITIES HOPED THAT THE EXERCISE COULD BE SHIFTED TO A TIME WHEN MAXIMUM PERMREP PARTICIPATION MIGHT BE EXPECTED. IF THIS COULD NOT BE DONE, HOWEVER, HE NOTED THAT WASHINGTON COULD ACCEPT THE CURRENT SCHEDULE WITH LOWER LEVEL PARTICIPATION. THE FRG REP NOTED THAT HIS INSTRUCTIONS ALLOWED HIM SUFFICIENT FLEXIBILITY TO SUPPORT A SHIFT ALSO. THE CHAIRMAN ASKED SHAPE REP TO ADDRESS THE FEASIBILITY OF SHIFTING. THE SHAPE REP RES-
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PONDED THAT ANYTHING WAS POSSIBLE IF ONE WAS WILLING TO PAY THE PRICE. HOWEVER, HE NOTED, THE PRICE WAS LIKELY TO BE VERY HIGH IN THAT ALL PLANNING SCHEDULES, INCIDENT LISTS AND RATE TAPES ARE WORKED OUT. SACLAN REP (LACHLAN) SUPPORTED THE SHAPE REP. AFTER A LONG, UNSTRUCTURED DISCUSSION, THE COMMITTEE, AT US SUGGESTION, AGREED THAT LEAVING THE TIMING OF GENERAL ALERT AND THE LANGUAGE PERTAINING TO PERMREP PARTICIPATION "AS IS" (NOTING THAT IT IS ALWAYS A DELEGATION'S PREROGATIVE TO DESIGNATE ITS REPRESENTATIVE AT ANY GIVEN MEETING) WAS THE ONLY OPTION ON WHICH ALL COULD AGREE. THE SHAPE REP NOTED THAT NORMAL COMMUNICATIONS PROCEDURES CONCEIVABLY WOULD NOT REQUIRE A DPC MEETING ON GENERAL ALERT AND DESIGNATION OF HOSTILE NATIONS PRIOR TO 0800Z IN ANY EVENT. THE COMMITTEE AGREED THAT PERMREPS WOULD NOT REALISTICALLY BE EXPECTED TO BE IN THE BUILDING
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AWAITING THE ARRIVAL OF A REQUEST FOR GENERAL ALERT AND THAT A CERTAIN LAG BETWEEN RECEIPT OF THE REQUEST AND GUIDANCE FROM CAPITALS WOULD ALSO BE INVOLVED.

2. AGENDA ITEM II: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A. THE CHAIRMAN NOTED THAT SOME PROBLEMS HAD RESULTED FROM MILITARY INCIDENT/EVENT LISTS NOT BEING COORDINATED WITH CIVIL MINISTRIES WHERE THOSE MINISTRIES HAVE A DIRECT CONCERN, E.G., REINFORCEMENT.

B. WITH RESPECT TO THE NETHERLANDS SUGGESTION THAT THE

HIGH LEVEL EXERCISE PLANNING GROUP (HLEPG) DEVELOP THE POLITICAL INCIDENT LIST, THE CHAIRMAN SAID THAT HE WAS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT ADDING ANOTHER LAYER TO WHAT WAS ALREADY A TREMENDOUSLY COMPLICATED STRUCTURE. HE THEREFORE PROPOSED
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THAT THE COEC AGREE TO ACCOMPLISH THIS TASK, REINFORCED AS NECESSARY BY NATIONAL EXPERTS. NO ONE OBJECTED TO THIS SUGGESTION. COMMENT. THE NETHERLANDS REP (HOFFMAN) WAS ABSENT. END COMMENT. THE CHAIRMAN SAID THAT THE COMMITTEE'S AGREEMENT ON THIS MATTER WAS MOST HELPFUL AND WENT ON TO SAY THAT, ONCE THE MILITARY EVENT LISTS WERE COMPLETED, THE IS WOULD PREPARE A DRAFT POLITICAL INCIDENT LIST FOR NATIONAL COMMENT. HE CONCLUDED THIS ITEM BY SAYING THAT HE HOPED THAT THE POLITICAL EVENT LIST COULD BE APPROVED BY LATE AUTUMN.

C. THE CEP REP (HERZOG) IN THE COURSE OF AN OTHERWISE ROUTINE RUNDOWN ON THE STATUS OF CEP ACTIVITIES, TOOK THE US (I.E., JCS, EUCOM, ETC.) SEVERELY TO TASK FOR THEIR INABILITY TO PROVIDE DETAILED REINFORCEMENT DATA AS TO "WHAT TROOPS AND EQUIPMENT ARE COMING IN WHICH SHIPS TO WHICH PORTS." HE NOTED THAT HE HAD BEEN TO THREE MEETINGS CONCERNED WITH THE PROVISION OF THIS DATA AND THAT AT EACH MEETING US REPRESENTATIVES HAD PROMISED TO PROVIDE DATA AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE BUT THAT THE NECESSARY DATA HAD NOT YET BEEN PROVIDED, WITH THE LAST WORD BEING SOME TIME "THIS SUMMER". COMMENT: WE CONTINUE TO BE PUT ON THE DEFENSIVE BY THE IS AND THE ALLIES ON THIS ISSUE. OUR EFFORTS TO ASSIST IN RESOLUTION (E.G., REF C) HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL. WE REQUEST THAT WASHINGTON TAKE NECESSARY ACTION TO ENSURE THAT THE REQUIRED DATA IS PROVIDED WITHOUT FURTHER SLIP-PAGE. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON ASSISTANCE. END COMMENT.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE BY OOB MAY 22, 1978 ON PARAS 1A(2), 1D, AND 2C ABOVE. BENNETT

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